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09/089,098

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/089,098 06/02/98 BERTRAM

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EXAMINER

LM01/0223

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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2776

DATE MAILED:

02/23/00

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/089,098

Applicant(s)

BERTRAM, RANDAL LEE

Examiner

Cong-Lac Huynh

Art Unit

2776

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 June 1998.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-31 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-31 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been:
1. ☐ received.
2. ☐ received in Application No. (Series Code / Serial Number) _____.
3. ☐ received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. & 119(e).

Attachment(s)

- 14) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) ✓
- 15) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) ✓
- 16) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 1.
- 17) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 18) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 19) ☐ Other: _____.

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DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. This application has been filed with informal drawings which are acceptable for examination purposes only. Formal drawings will be required when the application is allowed.

Specification

2. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: the specification (page 16, lines 12-13) and the drawing (figure 8) are not consistent about the content of the column headings 220 and 230.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

4. Claims 3-4, 5-6, 7, 11, 11-13, 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as failing to set forth the subject matter which applicant(s) regard as their invention. Evidence that claims 3-4, 5-6, 7, 19 fail(s) to correspond in scope with that which applicant(s) regard as the invention can be found in Paper No. 1 filed 6/2/98.

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Regarding claims 3 and 4, applicant claims to remove a character if it is a vowel. This is contradictory to figure 8, the characters U in the column heading are not removed (column heading 240).

Regarding claim 5-6, applicant states "there are three character types: vowels (type one), lower case letters (type two) and spaces (type three)" (page 14, lines 3-4) and "In another embodiment, other character types can be chosen. For example, letters other than vowels could be chosen as type one" and "in an alternative embodiment, type one character could be designated as space" (page 14, lines 4-8). That means the name of the type can be changed but each type includes only one type of character.

This statement indicates that the invention is different from what is defined in the claims because the first same plurality of characters is claimed as lower case characters in claim 5 and also is claimed as spaces in claim 6.

Regarding claim 7, it is not clear that the first character type is not defined whereas the second character is defined as lower case (lines 11-12) and the third character is defined as space (lines 14-15).

Regarding claims 11-13, it is not clear that the first character type is not mentioned in claim 11 (line 4) whereas the second character type and the third character type are mentioned in claim 12 (line 4) and in claim 13 (line 4).

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Regarding the computer-readable medium claim 19, applicant claims that "removing the at least one *upper case* character " (lines 3, 5) which is not consistent with the correspondent method claim 1 (lines 2-3) and 7 (lines 11-12), which claim about lower case.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over figure 4, the prior art submitted by applicant.

Regarding independent claim 1, figure 4 discloses:

--obtaining at least one entry from the at least one column (entries System, 10, 22, 24.. of col 31)

--abbreviating a width of the at least one entry (System in col 31 is abbreviated into Systm in col 210)

--determining if there is another entry containing text data (another entry containing text data in col 31)

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--displaying the at least one column having the at least one abbreviated entry (the column 31 is displayed as column 71 on figure 4)

Figure 4 does not explicitly disclose the repeating steps (b) and (c) until all of the at least one entry of the at least one column are abbreviated. However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to have recognized that the repeating steps are carried out since all of the column headings in figure 2 are abbreviated as seen in figure 4.

Regarding claim 2, which is dependent on claim 1, as disclosed in claim 1, the at least one entry is the column heading.

Regarding claims 3 and 4, figure 4 discloses the removing of at least a vowel from the column heading 34 in figure 2 (character e is removed).

Regarding claim 5, figure 4 discloses the removing of at least a lower case from the column heading 31 in figure 2 (character m is removed).

Regarding claim 6, figure 4 discloses the removing of at least a space from the column heading 32 in figure 2 (there is no space in the column heading).

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Regarding independent claim 7, figure 4 discloses the limitations (b) and (c) as in claims 1, 3-4, 5-6 rejected above, except the limitation (a) for determining a character type.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to have included the determining of a character type to the prior art in figure 4 for removing the characters as desired.

Claim 8 is similar to claim 2, and therefore is rejected under the same rationale.

Regarding claims 9 and 10, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to have included the repeating steps to the prior art as disclosed in claim 7 since it was well-known to use the loop to repeat the steps defined.

Regarding claim 11, the column heading 31 "System" in figure 2 includes the consonant "m" which is removed since the width of "System" is wider than 5 as seen the result in figure 4, column 71.

Regarding claim 12, the column heading in column 36 includes lower case characters which are removed since the width of the column is wider than 5 as seen the result in figure 4, column 76.

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Regarding claim 13, the column heading in the column 32 includes a space which is removed since the width of the column heading is wider than 5 as seen the result in figure 4, column 72.

Regarding claim 14, the heading in column 31, which is wider than 5 and does not contain a space, which is the third character type, is truncated as seen on figure 4, column 71.

Claims 15-20 are for the computer-readable medium for the method of claims 1-6, and therefore are rejected under the same rationale.

Claims 21-28 are for the computer-readable medium for the method of claims 7-14, and therefore are rejected under the same rationale.

Claims 29-31 are the system for performing the method of claims 7-14, and therefore are rejected under the same rationale.

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

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Shin et al. (US Pat No. 5,557,787, 9/17/96) teaches a table generating apparatus employing heading, layout, and table script data.

Healy et al. (US Pat No. 5,668,961, 9/16/97) teaches a system and method for fast display of data objects in a table.

Bertram (EP 0863499A2) teaches a mobile client computer programmed to process table displays.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cong-Lac Huynh whose telephone number is (703)-305-0432. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Razavi, can be reached on (703) 305-4713. The fax number to this Art Unit is (703) 308-5403.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

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Or faxed to:

(703) 308-9051, (for formal communications intended for entry)

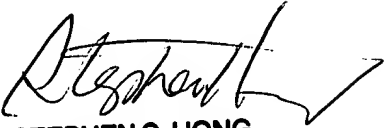
Or:

(703) 308-5403 (for informal or draft communications, please label
"PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive,
Arlington, VA. Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Clh

2/16/00



STEPHEN S. HONG
PRIMARY EXAMINER